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Message Text

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63
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 DRC-01 /115 W
---------- 114269
R 011625Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8810
USLO PEKING
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SL, CH, KN

REF (A) FREETOWN 1566; (B) FREETOWN 1520

1. REF (A) REPORTED PRC HAD EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO PRESIDENT SIAKA STEVENS TO VISIT PEKING. MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PRATT TOLD ME THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL TRAVEL TO EUROPE NEXT WEEK FOR ONE MONTH'S LEAVE DURING WHICH HE WILL VISIT THE PRC IN RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION EXTENDED. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD ALSO USE THIS OCCASION TO VISIT NORTH KOREA (REFTEL B), PRATT SAID HE DID NOT THINK SO.

2. PRESIDENT STEVENS APPARENTLY PLANS TO DEPART FREETOWN BETWEEN OCTOBER 7 AND 9, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FURNISHED THE PAO BY PRESS OFFICER GOSL ROY MACAULEY.

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT STEVENS IS OBVIOUSLY ENJOYING
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WEARING HIS NEWLY-DISCOVERED TRAVELLING SHOES, AND

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APPEARS CONFIDENT THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY IS
SIFFICIENTLY STABLE THAT NO ONE IS LIKELY TO UNSEAT
HIM DURING HIS ABSENCE. VICE-PRESIDENT S.I. KOROMA
IS PRESENTLY IN LONDON FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT. PRE-
SUMABLY HE WILL RETURN BY NEXT WEEK TO SERVE AS ACTING
PRESIDENT. SEVERAL KNOWLEDGEABLE SOURCES HAVE REPORTED
TO THE EMBASSY THAT S.I. IS SUFFERING FROM AN
ADVANCED CASE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND IS IN GENERALLY BAD
HEALTH.
OLSON

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: willialc
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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